### Miscellaneous.

Length of the	hind limb	35
of the	entire foot	15
of the	fourth toe	9

Two specimens were sent by Mr. Krefft ; they were collected at the Clarence River by James F. Wilcox, Esq., to whom science is indebted for many valuable acquisitions from that country.

I take this opportunity of remarking that *Hyla aurea*, Less., has the first finger opposite to the three others, and that therefore it ought to be referred to the genus *Litoria*.

### HALOPHILA PLATYDACTYLA.

This species is very similar to *H. vitiana*, Bibr., but distinguished by the very broad terminal disks of the fingers, which are as large as the tympanum. In the form of its head it agrees with the other species mentioned; the tympanum is not quite half as large as the eye; the choanæ and openings of the Eustachian tubes are small, and the minute vomerine teeth form only a very short oblique series behind the choanæ. The skin is perfectly smooth. The first finger is shorter than the others. The length of the body is more than the distance between vent and heel. Toes with a rudimentary web, and with the terminal disks much smaller than those of the fingers; the third toe is longer than the fifth; metatarsus with two minute tubercles. Uniform brownish violet above; light brownish below.

Length of the body 16 lines, of the hind limb 22 lines, of the fourth toe 7 lines, of the fore limb 11<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> lines.

The locality where this species has been obtained is not known, but it is probable that it came from one of the Feejee Islands.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

## Notice of a new Genus (Silurana) of Frogs from West Africa. By Dr. J. E. GRAY, F.R.S. &c.

MR. MOORE, of the Free Museum, Liverpool, has kindly sent to me for examination some young Frogs and their larvæ which he has lately received. They are peculiar for having a very long beard, like the cirri of a *Silurus* or Cat-fish, on each side of the mouth. The larva has the flat head and much the appearance of that genus of fish.

# SILURANA (Fam. Dactylethridæ).

The mouth with an elongated beard on each side, at the angle of the gape. Tarsus with a spur at the base of the first toe; the rest like *Dactulethra*.

The larva with a very broad flat head, and a very long beard at the angle of the mouth on each side: this beard in the larva is as long as the body; it is shorter and thicker in the specimens which have their fore and hind feet well developed but still retain their tail. The tail is compressed, finless above, but with a broad, well-developed membranaceous fin extending the whole length of the lower edge.

# Miscellaneous.

#### Silurana tropicalis.

Olive-green, smooth, pale beneath. The webs of the hind feet are broad, white, semitransparent; the claws on the three inner toes are well developed and black.

Hab. West Africa, Lagos. Brit. Mus. Collected by R. B. N. Walter, Esq.

The Dactylethra Mülleri of Dr. Peters, from Mozambique, and of Mr. Cope, from the Gaboon, most probably belong to this genus : but the beards are described as being placed "below the eyes;" in this animal they are far in front of the lower part of the eye, and situated at the angle of the gape, as in many Siluri and other fishes with bearded mouths.

# Note on Lepas anatifera.

16 Union Terrace, Aberdeen. Sept. 12, 1864.

DEAR SIR,—I send you a photograph of rather a remarkable specimen of the common Barnacle (*Lepas anatifera* of Linnæus), which was picked up by the fishermen in the Bay of Aberdeen a few days ago, and which you might notice in the 'Annals' if you think it worthy.

The log of wood is about 27 feet long, and 16 inches in diameter, three sides of which are covered with millions of these animals in high perfection. The Barnaeles, as they lie about it, make a diameter of 2 feet 9 inches, and, floating in the water, they spread out to a width of 4 or 5 feet. The shell, in the greater number, is fully  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch long, while the peduncle is, in many, 18 inches.

I am not aware of the Barnacle having been seen before in this part of the country, though I believe it is occasionally found on the western coast.

It is probable that the pine-log to which the animals are attached must have floated from a southern latitude; so that an interesting problem is offered to science by its appearance in our bay.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

### To W. Francis, Ph.D., F.L.S.

Ro. DYCE, M.D., F.R.S.E.

On the Anatomy of the Balanophoreæ, as regards the Characters which it furnishes for the Classification of those Plants. By M. A. CHATIN.

The Balanophoreæ, with the Cytincæ and Rafflesiaceæ constitute a singular class of parasitic plants, which has received the name of *Rhizantheæ*; their flowers, which are sometimes small and grouped together, sometimes very large and solitary, often appear to push forth, like Mushrooms, from a sort of subterranean byssus.

Their seed, which has been the subject of valuable investigations on the part of Messrs. Weddell, J. D. Hooker, Griffith, and Hofmeister, has its embryo formed only by a homogeneous cellular mass, like the spores of Cryptogamic plants—a simplicity of organization